Appl. No. Filed : 10/007,003

November 9, 2001

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed July 14, 2008 has been received and reviewed. By way of summary, Claims 1-12, 43, 71-73, and 75-98 were previously pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted the application as follows:

- I. Claims 1-12, 43, 71-73 and 98, drawn to data replication among multiple storage devices, classified in class 711, subclass 162.
- Claims 75-83, drawn to process read/write requests for distributing storage data, classified in class 707, subclass 200.
- III. Claims 84-86, drawn to executing local/remote software modules for local/remote storage devices communication and data distribution, classified in class 709, subclass 201.
- IV. Claims 87-97, drawn to process storage devices write requests for tracking a content file with different level protection schema, classified in class 714, subclass 006.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of the claims. In an effort to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants hereby elect Group I, without traverse. Applicants have canceled Claims 75-97 without prejudice or disclaimer and have proceeded with Claims 1-12, 43, 71-73 and 98 for prosecution on the merits without prejudice to any canceled Claims, including Claims 13-42, 44-70, and 74-97. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any non-elected claims in one or more divisional or continuation applications.

Accordingly, Applicants specifically request consideration of Claims 1-12, 43, 71-73 and 98 and respectfully request the Examiner to pass Claims 1-12, 43, 71-73 and 98 to allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned directly.

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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 8/14/08

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